#### NEW BOOKS.

A Tragedy by Dr. Brady. We have a "problem" story of direful in "A Doctor of Philosophy," by Townsend Brady (Charles Scribner's We had not expected such a story Dr. Brady's nimble and inspiring pen. He does not kill a heroine or blight a hero When we made the acquaintance Alicia Chalden here we felt ourselves have a warrant in believing that she was made for joy, though she had indeed been engaged for two years in writing a esis upon the integral equality of the ack and white races. When Hulsewood Hall burned down, the oldest dormitory the admirable school where she was just finishing a profound education, the first words she said to young Dr. William Penn Whyot, who bore her in the nick of time from a vortex of smoke and flame.

nto the flames and saved the thesis, singeing his handsome Van Dyke beard dreadfully in the operation. Now here was a girl who was full of philosophy, if ever a girl was. She was a loctor of it, the doctor of the title. She was prepared to persuade the world that man's color or previous condition of ervitude was nothing against him. The college hall "rang with applause" when she read her thesis. "Men and women stood up and clapped and clapped again and again." They were persuaded by her. Of course, she herself was persuaded. The nesis was, by reason of its truth, to her a

were "My thesis!" We will add at once,

suspense, that Dr. Whyot dashed back

relieve the reader from an unendurable

sacred thing. And yet Alicia, this Doctor of Philosophy, summa cum laude and author of the thesis, was unable to support the revelation when she learned that her mother was an octoroon

She had a right to live and be happy, one would think. She was very beautiful. and very rich. Her father owned half Philadelphia, and was the political and financial dictator of that considerable city. He stood ready to dower her with \$200,000,000. It was the felicity of her over to behold her bare foot when he bore her from the flames of Hulsewood Hall. She had dislocated her ankle. The story says: "He drew his penknife from his pocket, in default of other instrument, lifted the little foot, skilfully slit the girl's stocking, and laid bare her ankle. A few manipulations, which bespoke assurance and ability, apprised him what was the trouble. It was a forward dislocation of the ankle. The absence of crepitation assured him that the ankle was not broken. He seized the ankle in his strong, skilled hands, worked over it for a moment, and finally forced the bones back into place. His instincts and observations, since he had discovered the accident, had been enirely impersonal and scientific, he had handled her with the impassivity of his profession. Not until he had completed the task did he notice the beauty of the foot and ankle in his hand." He recalled t often afterward; it was a shining memory She should have been happy, we say with her beauty and her riches and her over who was of the most distinguished f Philadelphia families. Besides, there was the matter considered in the thesis. We read: "There was a streak of her father's usiness capacity and tenacity of purpose Alicia, and all the moments not occupied with her lover she devoted to the negro." Her "lover had his doubts of her ability really o live up to the thesis." He surprised her nce with the question: "Would you marry a black man, Alicia?" "Of course not!" she relied and she could not repress a shudder.

Alas! there came a time when the thesis as nowhere, as the reader may learn on page 248. There is here set forth an interiew between Alicia and the Rev. Mr. Olney, who was himself one-sixteenth black. The knowledge of her mother's mplexion had just flashed upon her. ! It's the truth!" she cried out to Mr. Olney. "I am even as you-tainted! Black! Black! My God! My God!" She had it out with her father. That magnate, ordinarily so adamantine, was quite broken up, comminuted, pulverized by her dreadful rage and scorn. "Don't shrink away from me!" he implored. "You are all I have. I've won the world, I can buy what I please; but there isn't a single thing on earth that oves me, unless you will forgive me. Think of me. I was horribly treated. I was mad. I was stricken in everything that men hold most dear. I was a brute, an animal, a fiend, a devil, call me what you ashamed. Alicia, I'm your father. I have ot been good to you, but I will make up you now. I love you. You don't know ow rich I am, how able I am. I want to make reparation. You wouldn't realize if I told you, but I-we have money enough to buy anything under heaven."

This was the man of whom the story ays that he was so strong that he produced sensation of weakness in those who approached him, and that, like William the Silent, he was tranquil in the midst of storms. Alicia was inexorable. "I hate you, I loathe you!" she said. "I do not know where I get the power to feel this way. My mother was an ex-slave, my father a liar, a brute, a blackguard! Why should I care?" She wrote to Dr. Whyot. "I am a black woman. This ends it all." Then she went away to Mr. Olney and married him out of hand. He offered to kiss her, but was not permitted. "To Alicia's eyes the lips that approached her cheek, though as finely out as her own, suddenly took on the semblance of the coarse, thick lips of the negro. The blackness of the man, unseen, smote her. With a low cry the girl shrank back. 'Don't!' she whispered. 'Not now, wait.'"

The unhappy man did as he was bidden At her request he left her alone to think out the situation. She thought until her mind gave way. The story says: "Alicia was mad at last. That throne had been vacated." Then the end—the final stultification of the thesis. "On the desk by her ide lay an ancient Spanish dagger of marellous workmanship. Olney used it for a paper knife. Some travelled friend had ought it to him. She took it up in her hand, unsheathed it. Her eyes scanned the polished blade. It quivered in her trembling fingers. The steel in the sunlight wavered before her vision like a white flame. There were voices in the hall below, steps on the stair. Now or never, Alicia lifted her arm. 'Will!' she whispered, and hen, open-eyed, implacable, urged thereto v remorseless fate, she drove home the ethal weapon with all the force left in her."

The nice substitution of "would better" or the ancient and buttressed idiom, "had better," will surely be noticed on page 178 of this story "I do not think we would better mention this affair to any one, omebody is there made to say. We should ot wonder if all the young ladies in Hulse wood Hall had been taught to say "would Very likely it was in the thesis.

#### An Unusually Good Story.

Miss Alice Jones tells an admirable story "Bubbles We Buy" (Herbert B. Turner & , Boston). In a long time we have not me across a story that was so skilfully orked out and so thoroughly readable. here is something, after all, in the idea of teresting the reader. A plot is a deable thing. It is agreeable to be made

curious in a hundred different respects, to follow a good tale along through many ingenious turns and dovetailings. This story teller is remarkably well equipped Of all the many and varied matters upon which she touches she has particular knowledge and intuitive understanding. Her story follows the fortunes of the heirs of a Nova Scotian sea captain who amassed riches in dubious ways. It has its different scenes in Nova Scotia, Boston, Florence, Paris, and the English country about the Thames.

The second chapter will very definitely fix the reader's interest. Here we have Gilbert Clinch and Isabel Broderick conferring about the lady's husband. Mrs. Broderick, herself an artist, is the wife of another artist, a millionaire Bostonian, who is afflicted with a melancholia that is about to pass into the stage of acute mania. Gilbert is a young alienist marked for disdinction in his profession. We do not mean to give away too much when we say that Gilbert and Mrs. Broderick are the hero and heroine of the story. A handsome woman, Mrs. Broderick, in her handsome Boston drawing room. "The cloudy afternoon was dim enough for the flicker of the firelight to be visible in the corners of the room, and to enrich with its glow the silvery folds of Mrs. Broderick's gray silk tea gown, edged here and there with touches of dark fur. How was it that a woman of so absolute a simplicity of bearing and aspect bore such a hall mark of fashion, Gilbert Clinch wondered, as he sat opposite to her, studying the woman with reminis cences of the untidy, enthusiastic girl art student of eight years ago. Perhaps he was not man enough of the world to appreciate the costliness of the perfect lines of the silk drapery, the finished art in the carelessness of the loose waves of fair hair. And the serene and dainty bearing of the society woman; perhaps that, too, had been no less costly an acquisition than the folds of the gown or the style of hair dressing." The reader will consent more and more to the fact of her fascinations as he goes on.

They took Broderick up to an old house set in a beautiful and solacing environment on the Nova Scotia coast. There strange things came to pass. The house had been owned by old Jonathan Bauer, the Blue Nose sea captain. They found in it certain things that that strenuous and acquisitive mariner had brought back from his voyages to the West Indies and South America. Capt. Bauer had carried letters of marque in his time, and it seems probable that he had no conscientious scruples regarding valuable and portable property that he found in churches. Mrs. Broderick and her little boy and Gilbert were in the garret one day. "Isabel stood looking round, somewhat listlessly, on the piles of broken furniture, old feather beds and pillows that mark such nooks; but as the boy, selzed with the spirit of play dashed round the brick chimney that rose in the middle of the place, crying, 'Catch me, mummie,' she stooped in pretended pursuit. There was a crash from behind the chimney, as of something falling, and Isabel darted after the child. He was standing unhurt, but dusty and bewildered by a large square canvas that had fallen to the floor from where it seemed to have been propped up, painted side inward. concealing an open hearth in the chimney." It was a picture of the martyred St

Lawrence, apparently a Spanish work of a time not long after Velasquez. Old Capt. Bauer had left no schedule telling about it, but it was plainly archaic and valuable and would have been quite as suitable in a South American church as in the captain's boreal and Lutheran garret And behind the picture there was a figure which the child eagerly hailed as a "dolly, but which was really an image of Our Lady of Wrath, or Virgin of the Seven Daggers richly belewelled and valuable intrinsically and from the point of view of the bric-àbrac collector, as well as in the religious eye. "Mrs. Broderick was all delighted curiosity as she knelt before it, wiping off the dust as she had done with the St. Lawrence. Just then a ray of late afternoon sunshine, piercing the fog, struck in horizontally at the left window. 'It's silver! she exclaimed with joy.

" 'Our lady born smiling and smart, With a pink gauze gown all spangles, and Seven swords stuck in her heart."

" 'Oh, but look!' Gilbert, too, had seen the marvellous sight of the line of green fire that answered the ray of sunshine as her hand passed over the dust on the border of the long robe. Quickly she brushed But now I am different. I am over the surface, and then drew back to gaze in amazement. The line of green stones ran right round the robe and up the front to where its folds were gathered in one hand. Each hilt of the seven daggers in the breast was of rubies, and over the head hovered an open crown of diamonds. Besides this it was evident, even to Gilbert, that the workmanship was of the best Renaissance period." Old Capt. Bauer knew what sort of a cargo it was worth while to bring

Continued on Eighth Page

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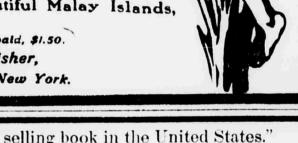
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